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JUN 8 1943

# CHOICE IRISES

GROWN AT

L. MERTON GAGE, Grower

NATICK, MASSACHUSETTS
1 9 4 3



# **CHOICE IRISES**

GROWN AT

# Sunnyside Gardens

NATICK, MASS.
L. MERTON GAGE, Grower

## SUNNYSIDE GARDENS

Are located at No. 64 North Avenue. Visitors are welcome any day in the week. I grow more than 500 varieties of the best modern kinds, including a great many of the recent novelties of merit, and several thousand seedlings of my own raising.

## **IMPORTANT**

Postage will be paid on all orders amounting to \$2.00 or more. Orders for less than \$1.00 are not accepted. 25% discount allowed on orders amounting to \$10 or more, except varieties priced Net. We begin shipping the middle of July and up to the first of September. To Southern States and the West Coast until late October.

## **SUBSTITUTES**

Late orders should include a list of substitutes in case some varieties are sold out. Otherwise your money will be returned for varieties out of stock.

#### SHIPPING

None but fully matured and blooming-size roots, properly dried out before packing, are sent out. Fresh dug roots, packed too soon after digging, are liable to sweat in transit, if the weather is hot, especially if they are packed in a tightly-closed box with no ventilation. The rhizome then becomes soft, followed by rot, soon after planting. (Holes are always punched in the box to give free circulation of air). Always examine the rhizomes soon as received, and if they are not firm and hard return at once to the dealer you purchased them from.

## JOIN THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

You will receive four Bulletins each year, chock full of Iris interest, all for \$3.00. Send your remittance to B. Y. Morrison, 821 Washington Loan and Trust Co. Building, Washington, D. C.

## DYKES MEMORIAL MEDAL

The judges of the American Iris Society awarded the Dykes Memorial Medal to L. Merton Gage, for his Iris, Rosy Wings, as the most meritorious

American Iris of 1939. This medal is presented by the Iris Society (British), yearly.

### **BRONZE MEDALS**

The Bronze Medal of the Massachusetts Horti-cultural Society was presented to L. Merton Gage, for his Sunnyside Gardens Collection of Irises, in

The Bronze Medal of the A.I.S. was awarded to Iris DAMERINE (Gage, 1939), at the GARDENS ON PARADE at the NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR, May, 1940. The winning stalk was exhibited by May, 1940. The winning stalk was exhibited by Mr. Kenneth D. Smith, Staten Island, N. Y., who received the Medal.

## **CULTURAL DIRECTIONS**

Tall bearded Iris should never be planted in a location where water settles, and the melting snows of late winter form a coating of ice over the beds. If your garden is in a low place, build up the beds six or eight inches, and be sure that the drainage is adequate to allow water to go down through the soil freely.

Do not plant too deep, but so that the rhizome is just below the surface. Spread out the roots and water the hole. Then draw the earth around the rhizome and firm well, and do not water again

the rhizome and firm well, and do not water again unless there is a continued dry spell.

If the soil is heavy and drainage is poor, white (coal) ashes will lighten it, and the clinkers may be placed in the bottom of the bed, about 18 inches down for drainage. Do not use the red ashes if white are obtainable. There is a lime element in the white ashes that is absent in the red, and this seems to be just the right chemical compound that is beneficial to many plants, Irises in particular. Use freely. Well-rotted manure may be safely used, if it does not come in contact with the Use freely. Well-rotted manure may be safely used, if it does not come in contact with the rhizomes.

There is no fixed rule as to how often Irises should be divided. Varieties that increase rapidly should be divided and reset every third year, some perhaps every second year, but Irises that increase slowly will sometimes do well for five years with-

out being disturbed.

Irises do not bloom well in too shady a location, as they require plenty of sunshine. A southern exposure is best, and do not plant them on the north or west side of a building. When replanting an old bed add a good portion of fresh soil taken from some place in the garden where irises have not grown before. Late planted irises sometimes do not have time to grow good anchorage roots to protect them against spring heaving caused by protect them against spring heaving caused by alternate thawing and freezing, and it is advisable to mound up these plants at the time of planting as is done by hilling up potatoes, or, at least, before the ground freezes. Mulching or covering with boxes is also a good way to give them protection against heaving, but if boxes are used, put a stone or brick under one side to give them ventilation.

# TALL BEARDED IRIS

# Sunnyside Gardens' Introductions

## **FOR 1943**

ATROUS—(Gage, 1943). Perhaps the darkest of all red-purples. Standards are blackish red-purple. The falls are a deeper red-purple than anything shown in the Ridgway Color Standards. It is almost a self and at a short distance appears to be a black Iris. Good size flowers, heavy substance and velvety texture. Midseason: 34-inch NET \$15.00 son; 34-inch. NET

son; 34-inch. NET ....\$15.00

CAHITA—(Gage, 1943). (Chief Sidar × Red
Bonnet). The standards are light brown. Falls
rich Bordieux brownish rich Bordieux, brownish red. Soft yellow haft and orange beard. Medium size flowers on tall, well branched stalks. Free blooming and early;

L. MERTON GAGE—(L-8) (Lapham). This is the Iris described by an eminent Iris breeder as the excellent substance. Tall and fine stalk. 40 inches. According to the Ridgway chart, the standards are pale salmon color over pale massicot yellow. Falls Rosalane pink to broad hafts of Baryta yellow, reticulated Sayal brown; beard light cadmium. Large rhizomes carried three bloom stalks with seven large increase. H. M., A. I. S., 1942. Early. NET .....\$15.00

# A Select List of Choice Irises INCLUDING

# Recent Introductions

ANNA GAGE—(Gage, 1941), (W. R. Dykes X
Tarasca). The flowers are of good size and
ANNA GAGE—(Gage, 1941), (W. R. Dykes X Tarasca). The flowers are of good size and pleasing form, and the coloring is the most gorphic form, recent introductions, with stand-
George of my recent introductions, with
ards of Tawny Olive and flaring falls of rich
Garnet Brown, Early; 35-inch \$6.00
AUTUMN SUNSET-(LapHorton, 1942). A
pleasing blend of gold, rose and lilac. A de-
pendable fall blooming Iris of fine form, and
heavy substance. Excellent, low branching.
Midseason\$2.50
BARBARA ELLEN—(Gage, 1942). (Allumeuse X
ards of Tawny Olive and flaring falls of rich Garnet Brown. Early; 35-inch
are a golden tan faintly flushed Mauve. Falls,
Hortense violet to amethyst violet. Golden yellow beard. Midseason; 33-inch\$10.00
low beard. Midseason; 33-inch\$10.00
RANKRES
rich red-numle self. The standards have a gus-
tening sheen. Velvety falls, orange beard. Mid-
season; 36-inch
season; 36-inch
× Rosy Wings). Standards are dark Olive
Buff. Falls Hay's Russet, a deep brown tone,
and style branches golden orange. Beard orange
bronze. Early; 28-inch
Buff. Falls Hay's Russet, a deep brown tone, and style branches golden orange. Beard orange bronze. Early; 28-inch
maroon purple self of beauty and distinct char-
acter
COPPER ROSE—(Cook, 1941). A blending of
old rose, tan and copper; a glow of golden yell
low at center of nower. Midseason; 38-inch, \$10.00
CROWN OF GOLD—(D. Hall, 1941). (Golden Hind × Salutation). Very large flowers of splendid form. It is a deep yellow self, deep orange beard. Very early; 36-inch\$3.50  EDWARD LAPHAM—(Lap., 1942). Rated by outstanding Iris specialists as the reddest Iris of Mr Lapham's fine group of red introductions.
CROWN OF GOLD—(D. Hall, 1941). (Golden
Hind X Salutation). Very large nowers of
splendid form. It is a deep yellow sen, deep
orange beard. Very early, so-inch
EDWARD LAFRAM—(Lap., 1942). Italian Iris
of Mr. Lapham's fine group of red introductions.
Distinctly different from other reds. Early,
\$17.00
4049) A
very large bloom of excellent substance. S. buff tinted pink. Falls are a lovely shade of pink. Midseason
buff tinted pink Falls are a lovely shade of
nink Midseason \$12.00
IAMBORFF (Peckham, 1942). A floriferous
nink and white bicolor. Late\$2.50
KATHERINE GAGE—(Gage, 1942). (Dorothy
Dietz X Sir Michael). Standards domed, Brad-
ley's violet. Falls Madder violet, flaring orange
beard. Distinctive. Midseason; 34-inch. \$3.50  LADY PRISCILLA—(Gage, 1942). (Pink Satin  × No-we-ta). A very dainty plicata of medium
LADY PRISCILLA-(Gage, 1942). (Pink Satin
× No-we-ta). A very dainty plicata of medium
size flowers, with daintily frilled edges. Blos-
size flowers, with daintily frilled edges. Blossoms early on 32-in. stalks. Very fragrant. \$3.00

WINTER SHADOWS—(Peck-Bent, 1941), (Sensation × Crusader). A sparkling light greyblue, slightly crinkled falls and standards with changing highlights like the winter shadows on the snow. Late; 38-inch ..................\$10.00

## GENERAL LIST OF

# TALL BEARDED IRIS

ALASTOR—Brisk yellow and pink blend...\$1.50
ALLUMEUSE—Wisteria violet standards, pansy violet falls ......\$1.00
AMIGO—Light lavender violet to deep Hyacinth violet. H. M. .....\$1.00
ANITRA—Superfine soft blue self ......50c

APRICOT—Solid golden apricot75c
ARETHUSA—A Daphne red self, very large flow-
ers. H. M
er\$1.00 AUREATE—Medium yellow with finely serrated
AUREATE—Medium yellow with finely serrated
edges
recommended. Late\$7.50
BELLE COVERT—Pink and lilac blend\$1,00
BEVERLY—Pinkish fawn self. Late\$2.00
BO PEEP—Cream color and pink\$1.50 BRUNHILDE—Tall, dark blue-violet. H. M40c
CATHEDRAL DOME—A large, ruffled white.
H. M
CAMEROUN—Violet and black purple\$3,00 CHESTNUT HILL—Enormous deep yellow\$1.50
CHRISTABEL—The most popular red. A. M. 50c
CITY OF LINCOLN—Huge variegata \$1.50
CLOVELLY—Grayish white flushed seafoam green\$2.50
green\$2.50
CLARET VELVET—Rich, velvety wine red self, \$2.00
COPPER CRYSTAL—Blend of tawny brown, golden brown and red\$2.00
CORRER RIEGE Planding of red corrers red
COPPER PIECE—Blending of red, coppery red and blue50c
CORONET-A soft blend of golden tan rose-
beige and yellow
CORTEZ-Dapper yellow and deep rose; crimson-
purple falls\$1.00
CRIMSON SUN—A rich crimson self\$1.00
DAMERINE—Large, dark red self. Bronze medal at N. Y. World's Fair, 1941\$2.00
DEEP VELVET—Rich, blackish red-violet\$4.00
DIVINE EVADNE—Rose buff and yellow\$1.00
DORIS M. TAYLOR—Rich, red-purple bicolor, \$1.50
EDNA HICKS—Large flowers of pinkish lilac,
pansy violet and dark purple\$2.00
ETHELYN KLEITZ-Light Corinthian red and
hydrangia red. Very distinctive. H. M\$5.00
hydrangia red. Very distinctive. H. M\$5.00 EXCLUSIVE—A clear light blue. A. M60c FAIR ELAINE—Soft cream standards and deep,
rich vellow falls. Very fine. A. M\$2.00
FAVORI—Rich, deep pansy violet50c
FRANCES DOUGLAS—A fine blend of golden tan, lavender blue and petunia violelt\$3.50
FRANCESCA—A tall, stately self of deep Pom-
peian pink
FRANK ADAMS—Very strong, four feet stalks,
well branched. Standards maize yellow, falls vinaceous purple. A. M
FRENCH MAID-A rich blend of rosy bronze,
Wisteria blue and gold\$2.50 GLORIOLE—Very large flowers of light blue with
GLORIOLE—Very large flowers of light blue with
a frosty sheen. A. M
edging
GOLDEN MADONNA—Combination of creamy
white and primrose yellow. Early\$3.00

GOLDEN MAJESTY—Perhaps the best all-around
yellow
gold
GREAT LAKES—Very large flowers of clear light
blue. Dykes Medal, 1942\$1.75
GUDRUN—Very large, gleaming white. Dykes
gold
seven colors difficult to describe
HELEN M. RIEDEL—Golden standards and or-
ange red falls\$2.00 HYLEPHILA—Purplish lilac, brown and light yel-
low\$1.00 ISHPANEE—Standards yellow. Falls yellow with
ISHPANEE—Standards yellow. Falls yellow with
red patch
frosty white. H. M
frosty white. H. M
JEAN CAYEUX—Coffee brown with golden glint,
JEAN LAFITTE—A fine coppery rose blend. 35c
JELLOWAY—A clear, deep yellow35c
JELLOWAY—A clear, deep yellow35c JOANNA—Velvety deep purple. Very fine\$1.00
LA LORRAINE—Blending of fawn, copper-pink
LA LORRAINE—Blending of fawn, copper-pink and heliotrope
warm old rose\$7.50
warm old rose
I have seen\$3.00 LIGHTHOUSE—Bright rose and yellow blend .40c
LILY PONS—Buff, pink and rose pink30c
LOUVOIS—Havana brown and velvety Maroon,
LOUVOIS—Havana brown and velvety Maroon, \$1.00
LILY PONS—Buff, pink and rose pink30c LOUVOIS—Havana brown and velvety Maroon, \$1.00 MAID OF ASTOLAT—A grand, big blue and
LILY PONS—Buff, pink and rose pink30c LOUVOIS—Havana brown and velvety Maroon, \$1.00  MAID OF ASTOLAT—A grand, big blue and white plicata
LILY PONS—Buff, pink and rose pink30c LOUVOIS—Havana brown and velvety Maroon, \$1.00  MAID OF ASTOLAT—A grand, big blue and white plicata
LILY PONS—Buff, pink and rose pink30c LOUVOIS—Havana brown and velvety Maroon, \$1.00  MAID OF ASTOLAT—A grand, big blue and white plicata
LILY PONS—Buff, pink and rose pink30c LOUVOIS—Havana brown and velvety Maroon, \$1.00  MAID OF ASTOLAT—A grand, big blue and white plicata50c  MALLORCA—A charming Iris that might be termed a pinker GLORIOLE\$1.50  MARIE OF ROUMANIA—A splendid white of good size50c  MARQUITA—Very large flowers of creamy white
LILY PONS—Buff, pink and rose pink30c LOUVOIS—Havana brown and velvety Maroon, \$1.00  MAID OF ASTOLAT—A grand, big blue and white plicata50c  MALLORCA—A charming Iris that might be termed a pinker GLORIOLE\$1.50  MARIE OF ROUMANIA—A splendid white of good size50c  MARQUITA—Very large flowers of creamy white falls thickly lined ruby red50c
LILY PONS—Buff, pink and rose pink30c LOUVOIS—Havana brown and velvety Maroon, \$1.00  MAID OF ASTOLAT—A grand, big blue and white plicata50c  MALLORCA—A charming Iris that might be termed a pinker GLORIOLE\$1.50  MARIE OF ROUMANIA—A splendid white of good size50c  MARQUITA—Very large flowers of creamy white falls thickly lined ruby red50c
LILY PONS—Buff, pink and rose pink30c LOUVOIS—Havana brown and velvety Maroon, \$1.00  MAID OF ASTOLAT—A grand, big blue and white plicata
LILY PONS—Buff, pink and rose pink

NOONDAY SKY-Very large flowers of lavender
blue\$2.50  NOVITIATE—Tall, large, free-flowering white, \$1.00
NYLON—A light brown blend with a rosy flush, \$3.00
OSCEOLA—A sky blue self with crinkly texture,
OZONE—A beautiful mauve-toned blend35c RADIANT—S. burnished golden bronze. F. or- ange red. H. M
est reds
ROSY GLOW—Ivory white, edged violet purple,
ROSY WINGS—Blending of brown and pink.  Dykes Medal and A. M., Royal Horticultural Society and the Iris Society (British)35c  SABLE—Deep violet self. Very fine. A. M. Am.  Iris Society. C. M. Rome\$1.50  SALAR—Gay tones of flesh, cream and salmon,  \$5.00
SANDIA-A bright, clean deep pink blend35c
SETTING SUN—Velvety orange-red\$1.00 SHANNOPIN—Tall cream and pink, outstanding, \$3.50
SILVANUS—Blending of old gold and Saccardo's violet. Very extra35c
SIR KNIGHT—A large, deep blue self35c SIR LAUNCELOT—A rich, gold brown35c
SNOWKING—Large, pure white flowers35c
SORDELLO—A smooth, deep olive buff self. Very late50c
SPUN GOLD—Tall, velvety clear, deep yellow. One of the finest
STAINED GLASS—Brilliant coppery-red self, \$1.25
SUMMER TAN—Golden tan blend35c SUNDANCE—S. deep golden tan; F. golden tan with reddish mahogany tone. H. M\$5.00 THE BISHOP—A smoothly finished, intense Bish-
op's purple
flowers. Very early\$1.50 TREASURE ISLAND—Golden yellow and creamy
white
oring, differently arranged. Fine\$1.00 TYRIAN BEAUTY—A light reddish purple self, \$2.00
WABASH—A clear amoena, pure white with falls of Hyacinth blue
WINTER MOON—Large, cream white. Fine. 40c

## Varieties at 25c Each

SIX FOR \$1.00. TWELVE FOR \$1.50 Not subject to other discounts

AIRY DREAM—Clear, cool orchid pink
ALICE HARDING—A soft yellow
ALINE—Azure blue ALLURE-Canary yellow AMBROSIA—Satiny whitish pink ANNDELIA—Plicata, fine fragrance BEOTIE-Metallic elephant grey BLUE JUNE—A bluish lavender self
CALIFORNIA GOLD—Orange yellow self
CHALLENGER—Dark Purple and dark blackish violet CHIEF SIDAR—Similar to DAUNTLESS, much freer blooming

claribel—A large flowered plicata
coralie—Pale red. Dykes Medal
creole belle—Satiny Bishop's purple self
crystal beauty—A large pure white
bepute nomblot—Two shades of purple.
besert gold—One of the largest yellows.
bolly madison—Lilac Flushed Blue
bymia—A very large, dark purple self
clat—Wax yellow overlaid with pink.
Elkhart—Chestnut-red. yelvety falls ELKHART—Chestnut-red, velvety falls
ETHELWYN DUBUAR—The largest of the pinks. GOLD STREAM—Lovely, soft yellow.
HERMENE—Tall, satiny, deep pink blend
INDIAN HILLS—A rich, clear, purple self
ITASCA—A vivid deep amethyst self
JERRY—One of the most brilliant red Irises
JOYCETTE—A remarkable Iris of red tones
KING JUBA—Gold and maroon variegata
KING MIDAS—Golden buff and garnet-br

MIDAS—Golden buff and garnet-brown. Golden orange beard

Golden orange beard

LADY GAGE—Best of the garden whites

LEGEND—S. are bluish purple with a bronzy sheen. F. deep rich purple

LODESTAR—S. lemon chrome. F. velvety claret

LOS ANGELES—Giant white, edged pale blue

MARY BARNETT—Light Bluish Lavender

MARY GEDDES—Salmon; F. overlaid with Pompeian red. 40 inches

MONOMOY—A large, very deep blue violet

MOUNT ROYAL—Deep Pansy Violet. EXTRA

NORMA GAGE—A lovely little pink and white intermediate

intermediate

NYMPH—Empire Yellow. Fine intermediate PARTHENON—(Con., 1934). A tall, cool white PAULETTE—Light blue, mammoth flowers
PEACHES—Peach, apricot and orange tone
PICADOR—Large, fine variegata
PRAIRIE ROSE—Pinker than Rheingauperie PRES. PILKINGTON—Blend of buff and lavender PURPLE GIANT—Enormous dark blue-purple

flowers RAMESES—Blending of gold, pink and apricot RED DOMINION—(Ayres). Velvety blood red RED ORCHID—A beautiful Violet Carmine

RHEINGAUPERLE—Dainty orchid pink
SAN FRANCISCO—Large white flowers, edged
lavender
SERENITE—Big, lavender blue and gold
SHAH JEHAN—Rich Oriental coloring
S. DE L. MICHAUD—Enormous Sky Blue
SOUTHLAND—Fall bloomer. Lemon Chrome
SPOKAN—"The most brilliant of red-browns."
SUNMIST—Large, creamy, white flowers flushed
with yellow
TARASCA—Dark brown, F. violet carmine
THEODOLINDA—Large, white plicata
THURATUS—A large, black purple self
TRUE CHARM—White with the margins Lavender
UKIAH—Rich red and brown tones
WASATCH—Huge, glistening white, marked with
clear blue
YVONNE PELLETIER—Pale blue; tall
The above list is not subject to further discounts

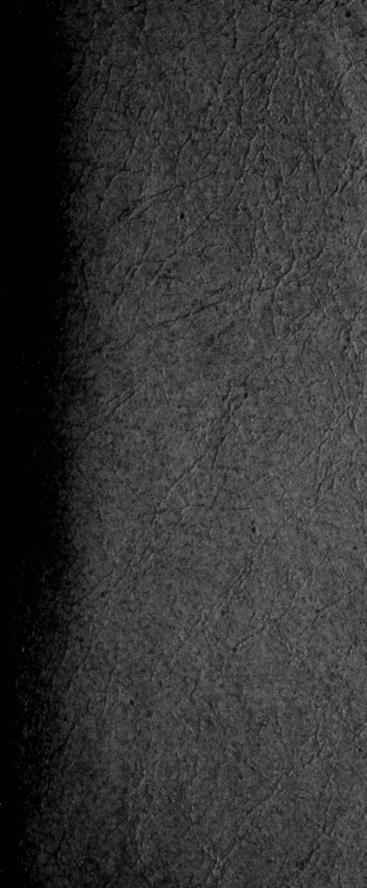
## IRIS SIBIRICA

CAESAR'S BROTHER—(Morg., 1932). The darkest and best Siberian; black pansy-purple; tall and late blooming ...\$1.00
GATINEAU—(Pres.-Kellogg, 1932). Medium blue in color, and the largest bloom we have seen in this class. 42 inches. H. M., A. I. S., 1933.\$1.00
GRAMINEA—(Spuria). Odor of ripe apricots; charming for flower arrangement ....50c
KINGFISHER—Large, dark blue flowers on stems over 4 feet tall ...35c
NATICK—(Gage, 1933). A large, beautiful, clear blue of fine form ...50c
OPAL BLUE—(Sturt., 1933). A delightful new Iris of clear sky blue; large flowers on medium stems ...75c
PEGGY PERRY—(Per., 1912). Ruffled blue; white center ...30c
PERIWINKLE—(Clev., 1929). One of the best dark purples ...50c
PERRY'S BLUE—Clear tone of China blue. 48 inches ...50c
SNOWCREST—(Gage, 1932). Sib. This is similar in color to Snow Queen, of which it is a seedling, but it is taller and freer flowering. Height 38 inches ...50c

Siberian Irises and species shipped in Spring and Fall. April and September preferred.

# Memorandum

# Memorandum



# U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,

Washington, D. C.

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
Fruit and Vegetable Crops and Diseases

8-2---

